

COMICO



JONNY QuestTM

8
U.S.A.
\$1.50
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00741
CDC



STEACY-86

COMICO



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COMICO THE COMIC COMPANY

STEACY-86

CREATOR PROFILES

KEN STEACY

The art of Ken Steacy should not be unfamiliar to Comico readers, as his work has previously graced a variety of Comico products, including covers for *Robotech Masters* and *Robotech The Macross Saga*, as well as the cover of *Comico Checklist #2*, which featured his first interpretation of Jonny Quest, Race Bannon, and Bandit.

An artist since childhood, Ken entered the comics field in 1974, when he was offered a job with Marvel Comics even though he had no formal art training. He soon enrolled at the Ontario College of Art, where he co-authored and drew a science-fiction story entitled *The Sacred and the Profane*, which was later published in *Epic Magazine*. He also adapted and illustrated three Harlan Ellison stories for that magazine. He pencilled, inked, and colored two issues of *Marvel Fanfare*, worked as an inker on *Star Wars*, and contributed to *Batman #400*. Recently, Ken inked *Robotech: The Graphic Novel* and created a breathtaking painted poster featuring characters from many of Comico's comic series. Future projects include the coloring of Comico's *Space Ghost* special. He and his wife Joan, a talented artist and sculptor, currently reside in Canada.

TOM GRINDBERG

Along with a vast array of comic book work, Tom Grindberg counts among his credits cover designs for albums by the bands Half-Life and Bouncing Babies. A self-taught artist, Tom currently pencils *Armor and Silverstreak* for Continuity Graphics. He has previously contributed to *Elvira's House of Mystery*, *Warlord*, *Vigilante*, *DC Secret Origins*, *Iron Man*, and *Ghost Rider*.

L. LOIS BUHALIS

San Francisco-based L. Lois Buhalis, letterer extraordinaire, attributes her choice of a career in comics to her claim that she was kidnapped by aliens as a child. She learned the craft of lettering under the tutelage of noted calligrapher Tom Orzechowski, and has since worked on *Green Lantern*, *The New Mutants*, and Comico's own *Robotech The Macross Saga*. Recently, she lettered the Comico graphic novel *The World Of Ginger Fox*, and is currently working to improve her pencilling and inking skills, while still lettering various projects, including Comico's upcoming *Fish Police Special*.

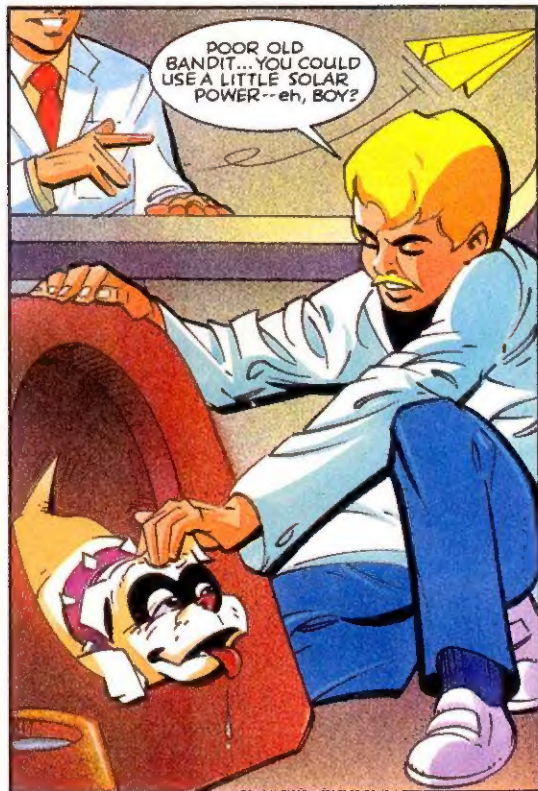
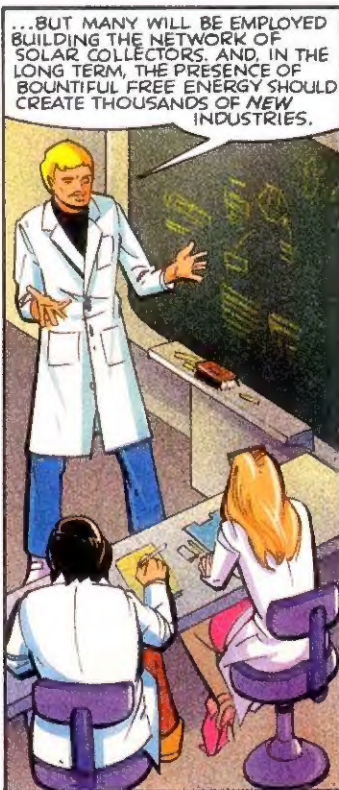
JOE MATT

While his contribution to this issue's pin-up represents his first credited work, colorist Joe Matt has long been known in the comics industry for his fine work at Bain Sidhe Studios, which he joined after attending the Philadelphia College of Art with studio-mate Matt Wagner. Having lately assisted with the recoloring of the initial issues of *Mage* for the Donning Starblaze collection, he hopes to someday write and illustrate his own comic.



THE CURSE OF X-7





TURN ON THE MONITOR,
JONNY. YOUR FATHER--
SENATOR QUEST--IS
ON LINE.



OKAY,
HADJI...



SORRY TO
INTERRUPT,
SON, BUT I
THOUGHT
YOUR CLASS
MIGHT LIKE TO
SEE HOW WE
ARE PRE-
PARING FOR
TOMORROW'S
LAUNCH OF
THE SOLAR
COLLECTORS!



RIGHT, DAD!
LOOKS GREAT OVER
THERE.

I ALSO HAVE TO WARN
YOU, SON, CERTAIN
INTERESTS ARE DETER-
MINED TO STOP THE
LAUNCH. I'VE JUST
LEARNED THAT A MAN
HAS BEEN HIRED TO
STOP ME... EVEN KILL
ME. A MAN WHO IS
KNOWN ONLY
AS X-7!

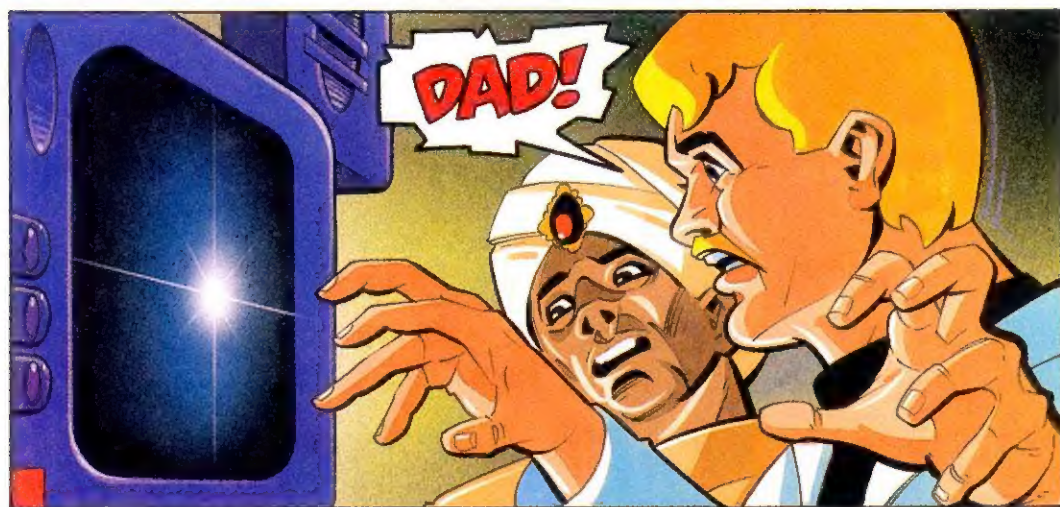


X-7 IS A SPY AND AN
ASSASSIN, BUT HE IS
MUCH MORE. HE IS
LIVING POISON, THE
MOST DANGEROUS
MAN ON EARTH...

JUST AS
THESE SOLAR
SATELLITES ARE
HUMANKIND'S
HOPE, SO X-7 IS
ITS DESTRU-
TION!

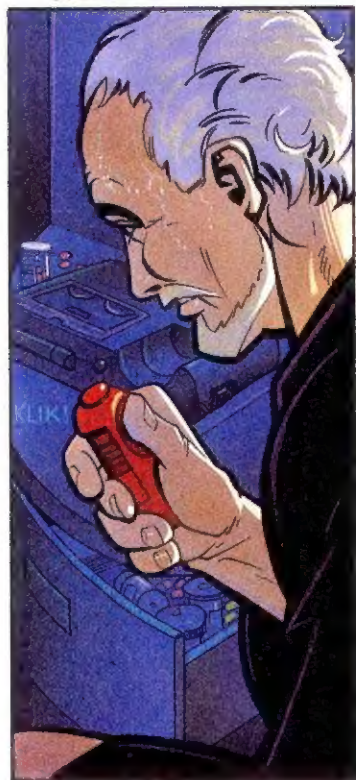
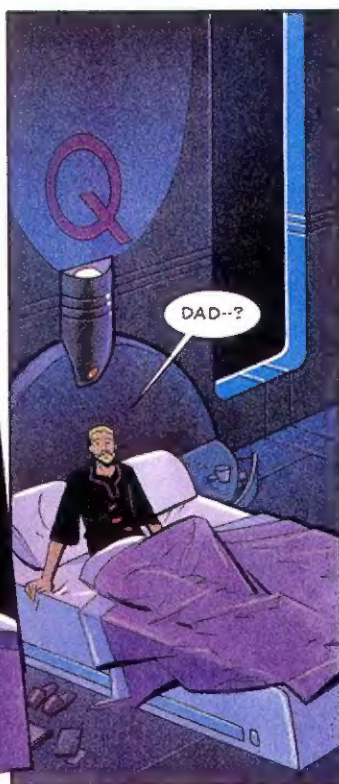


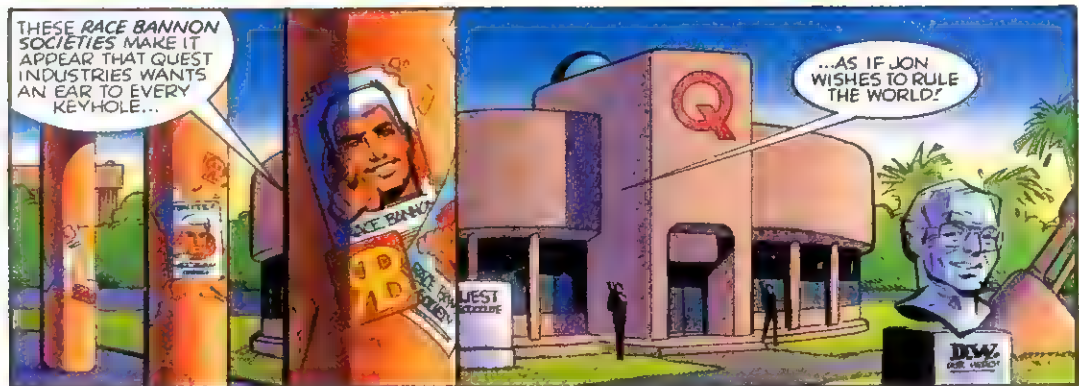
AND IF WE
DO NOT WAKE UP
TO THE DANGER OF
X-7, WE ARE
ALL DOOMED!

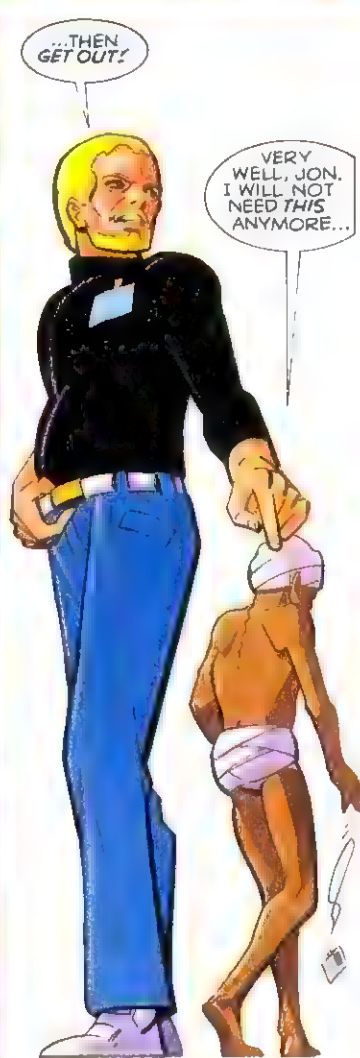
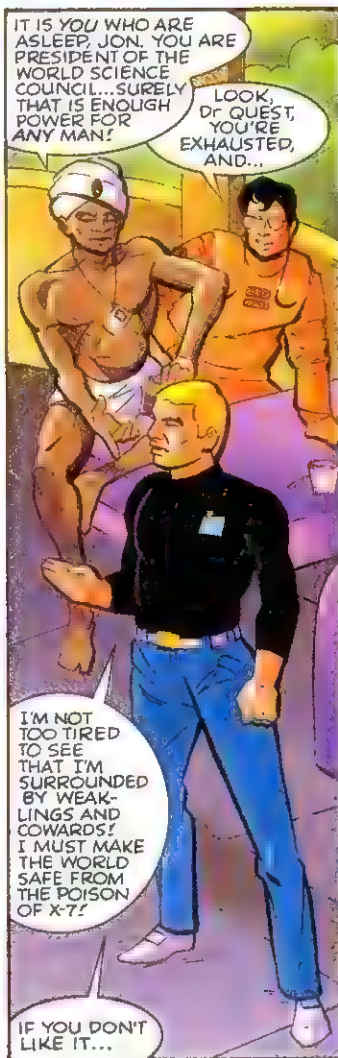
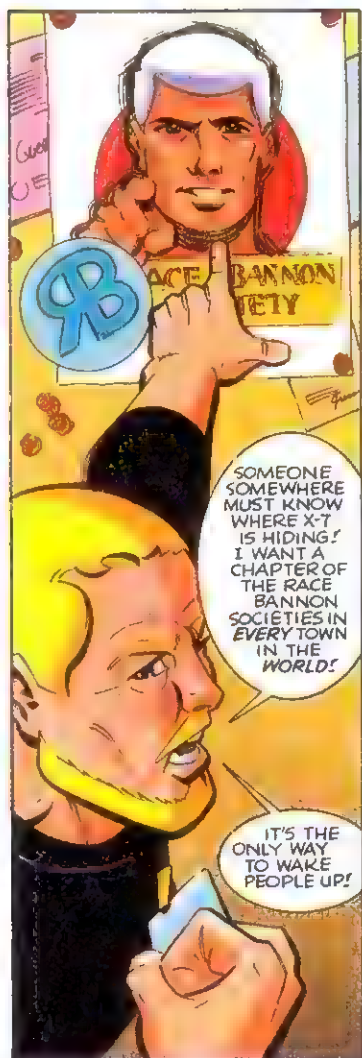
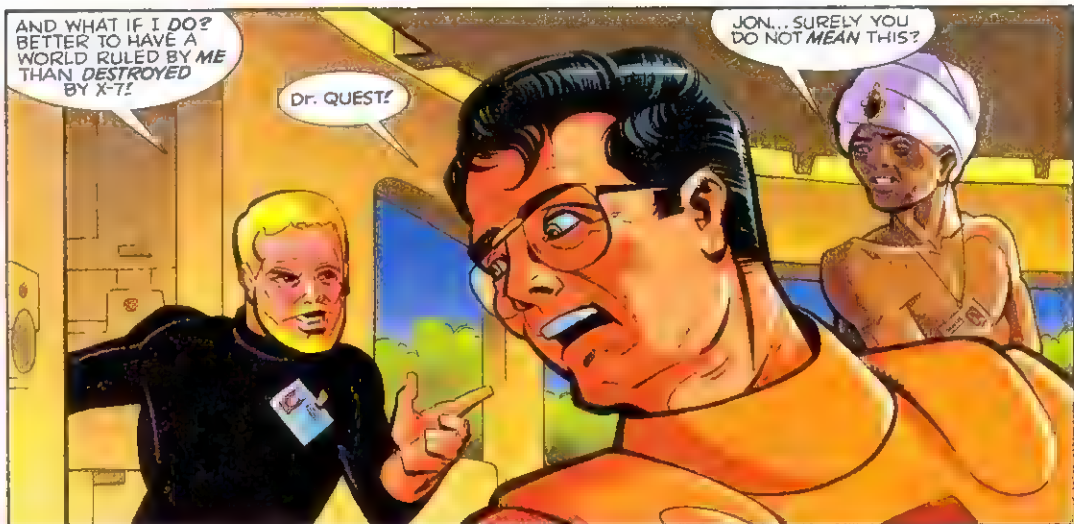


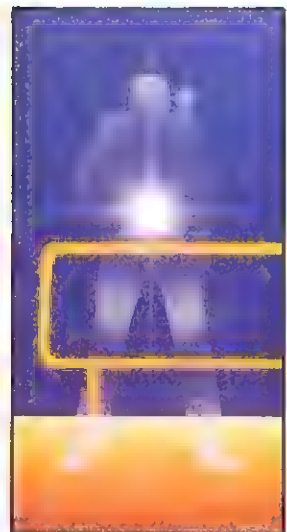
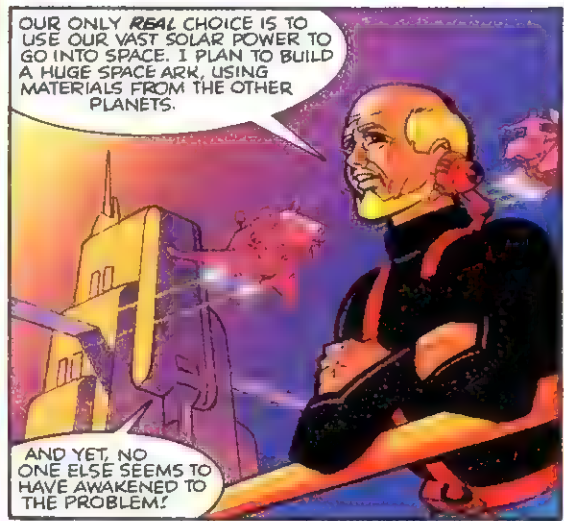


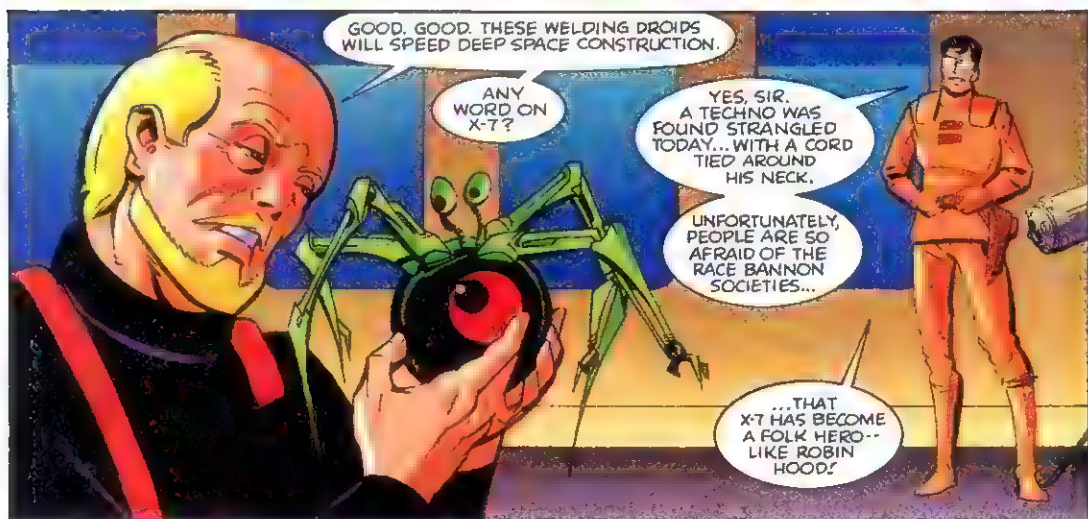
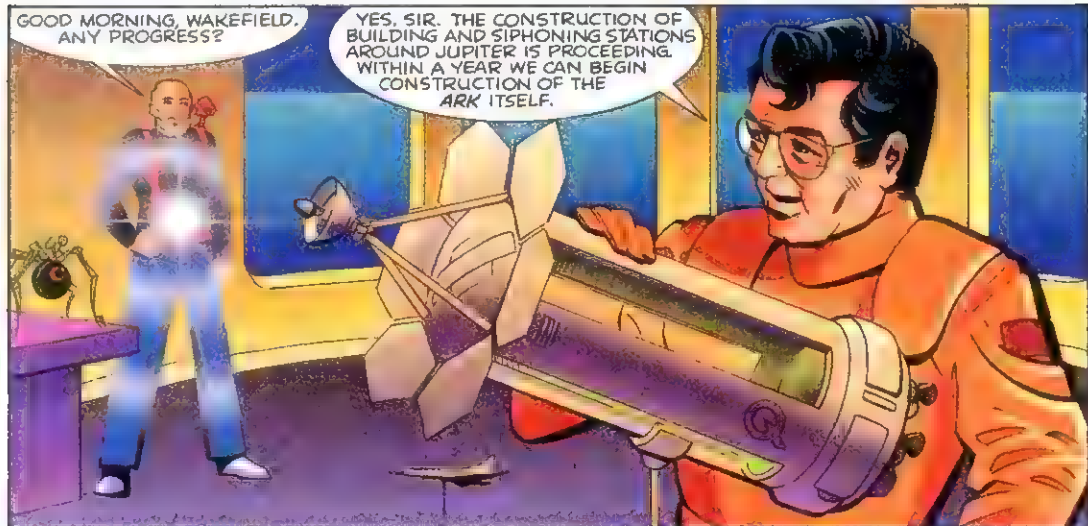


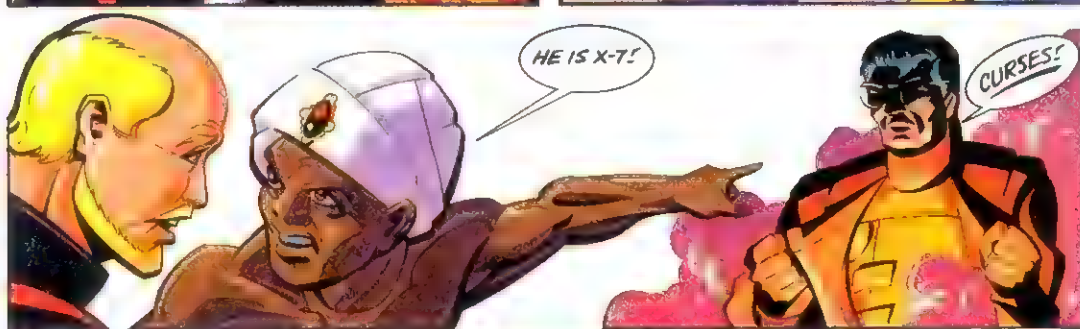
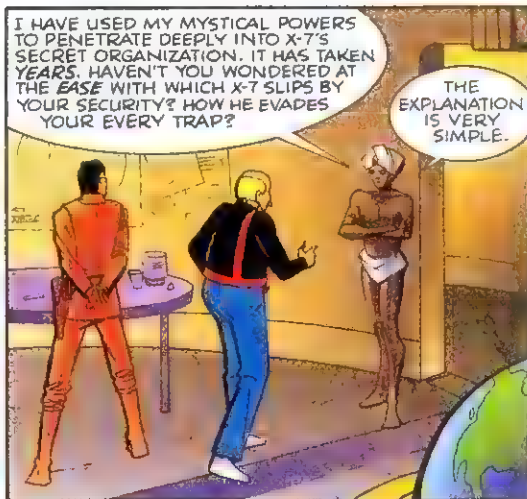
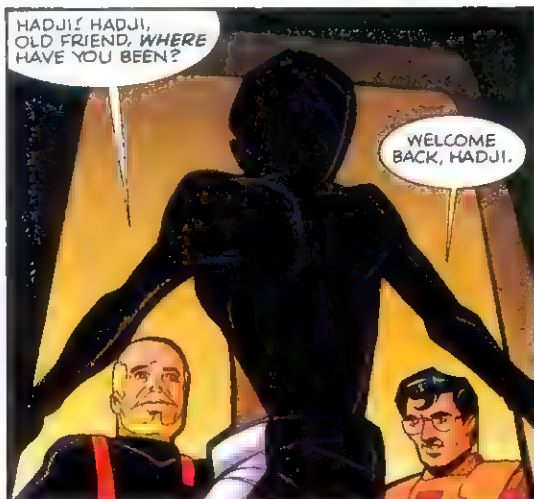


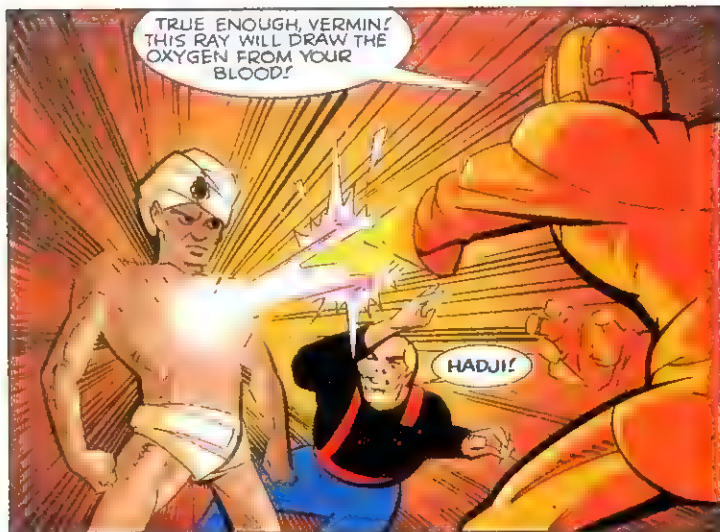










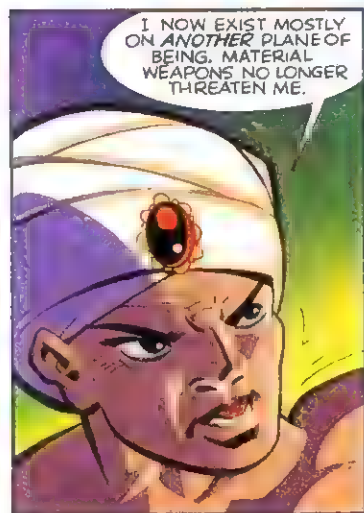


TRUE ENOUGH, VERMIN!
THIS RAY WILL DRAW THE
OXYGEN FROM YOUR
BLOOD!

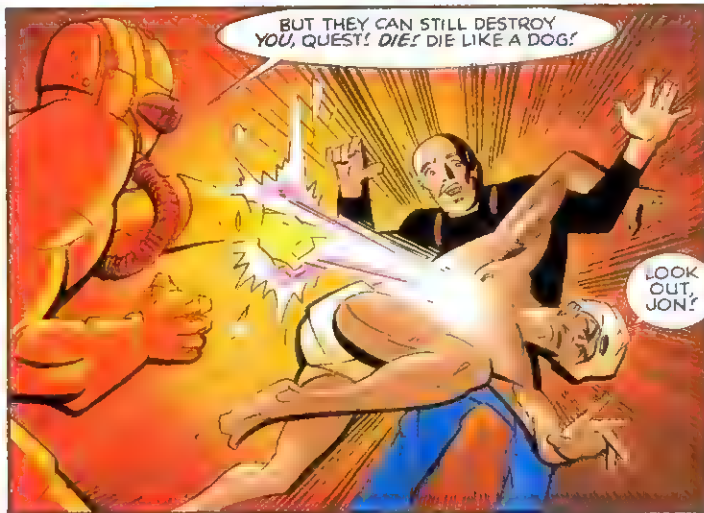
HADJI!



WHAT?? YOU STILL
LIVE?? IT'S NOT
POSSIBLE!



I NOW EXIST MOSTLY
ON ANOTHER PLANE OF
BEING. MATERIAL
WEAPONS NO LONGER
THREATEN ME.



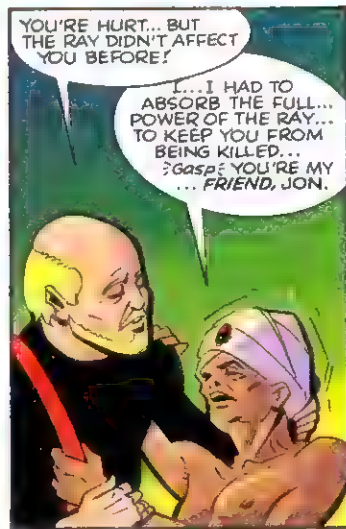
BUT THEY CAN STILL DESTROY
YOU, QUEST! DIE! DIE LIKE A DOG!

LOOK
OUT,
JON!



BAH! I'LL BE BACK
FOR YOU ANOTHER
TIME, QUEST!

HADJI!

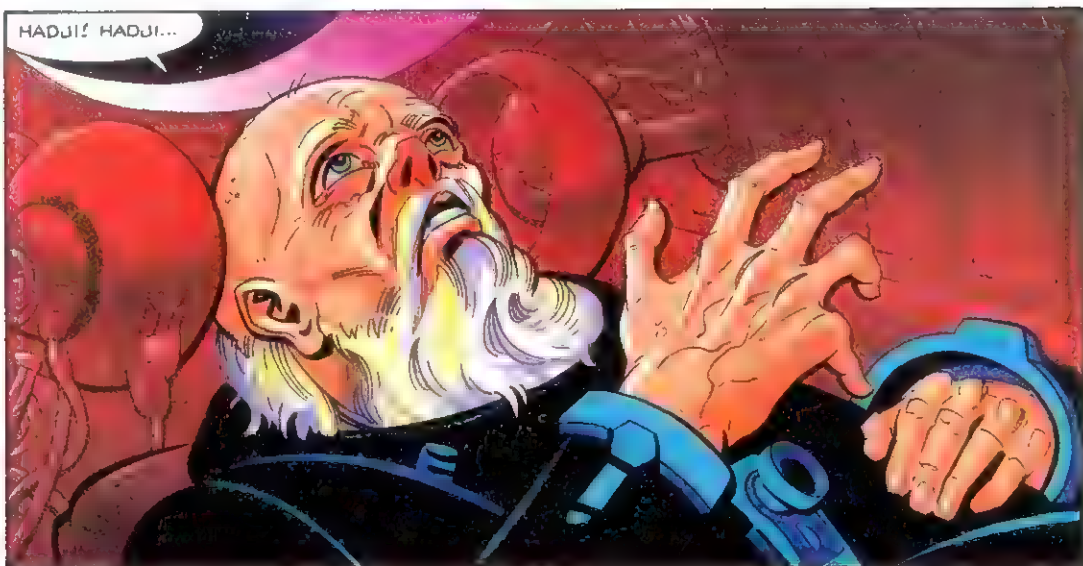


YOU'RE HURT... BUT
THE RAY DIDN'T AFFECT
YOU BEFORE!

I... I HAD TO
ABSORB THE FULL...
POWER OF THE RAY...
TO KEEP YOU FROM
BEING KILLED...
?Gasp? YOU'RE MY
... FRIEND, JON.



HADJI!
HADJI!

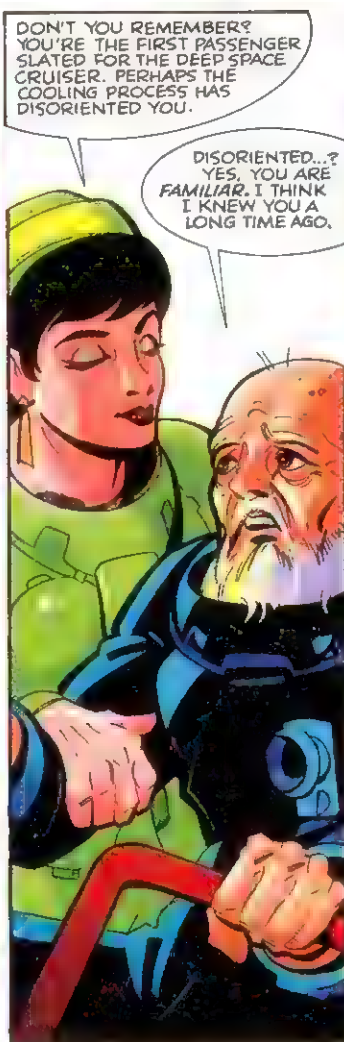


HADJI! HADJI...



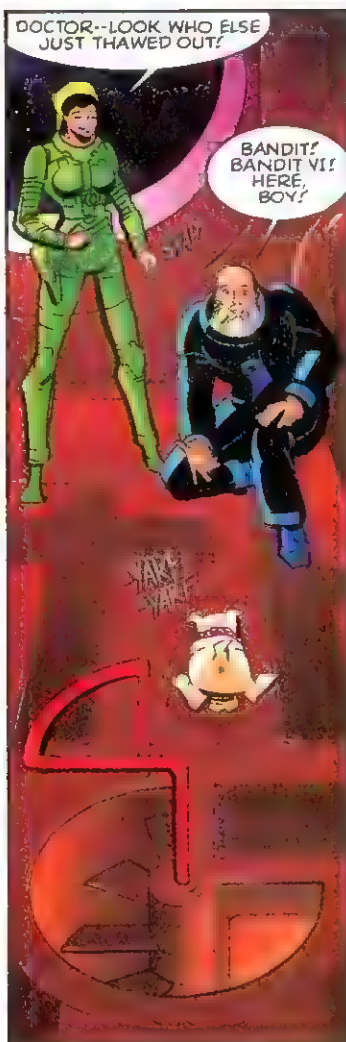
WHERE... WHERE AM I?

WHY, JUST WHERE YOU SHOULD BE, DR. QUEST -- IN ORBIT AROUND JUPITER.



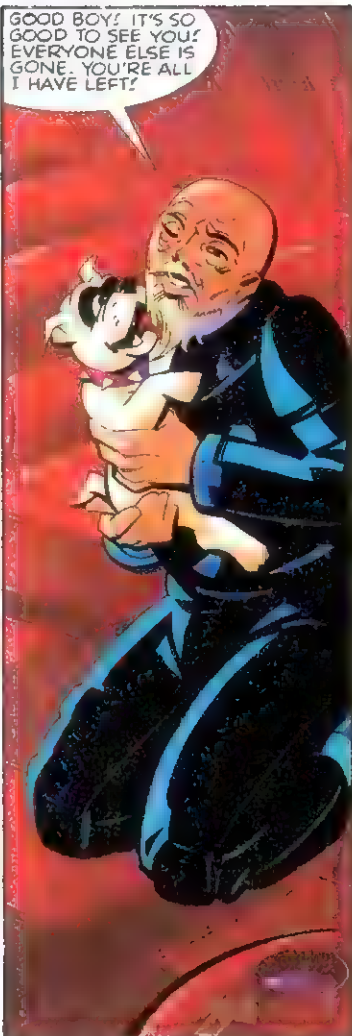
DON'T YOU REMEMBER? YOU'RE THE FIRST PASSENGER SLATED FOR THE DEEP SPACE CRUISER. PERHAPS THE COOLING PROCESS HAS DISORIENTED YOU.

DISORIENTED...? YES, YOU ARE FAMILIAR. I THINK I KNEW YOU A LONG TIME AGO.

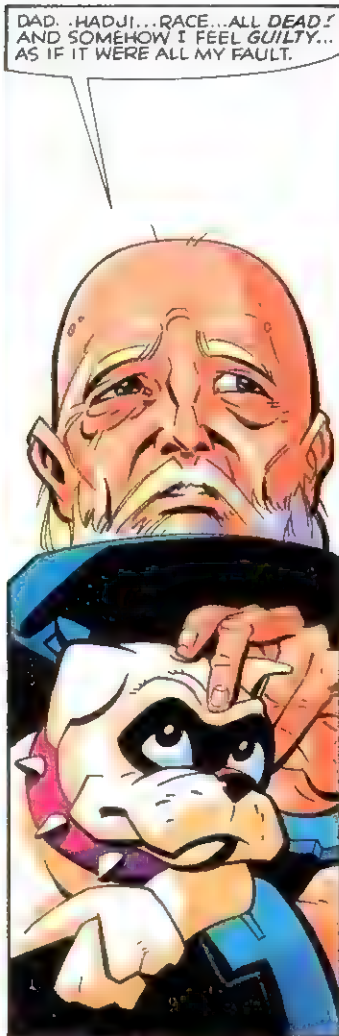


DOCTOR--LOOK WHO ELSE JUST THAWED OUT?

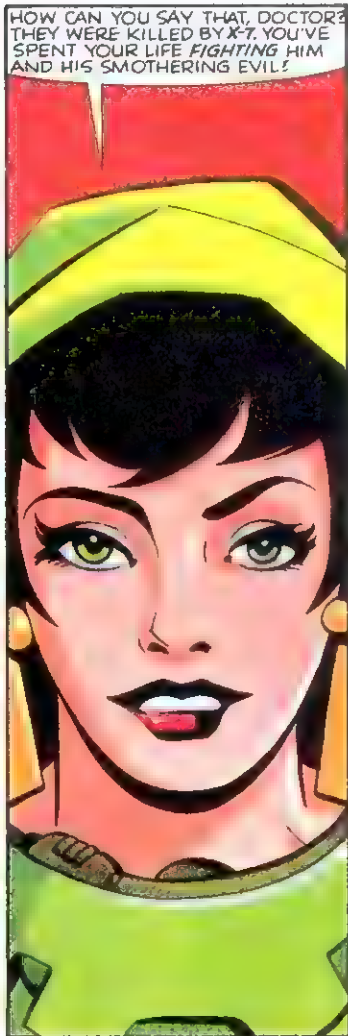
BANDIT? BANDIT VI! HERE, BOY?



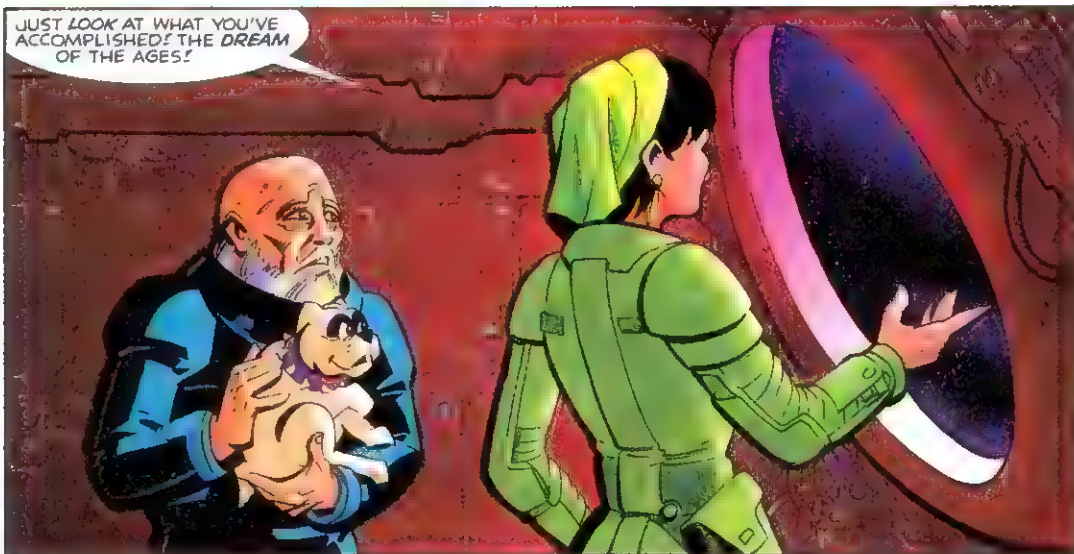
GOOD BOY! IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU! EVERYONE ELSE IS GONE. YOU'RE ALL I HAVE LEFT!



DAD...HADJI...RACE...ALL DEAD! AND SOMEHOW I FEEL GUILTY... AS IF IT WERE ALL MY FAULT.



HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT, DOCTOR? THEY WERE KILLED BY X-7. YOU'VE SPENT YOUR LIFE FIGHTING HIM AND HIS SMOTHERING EVIL!

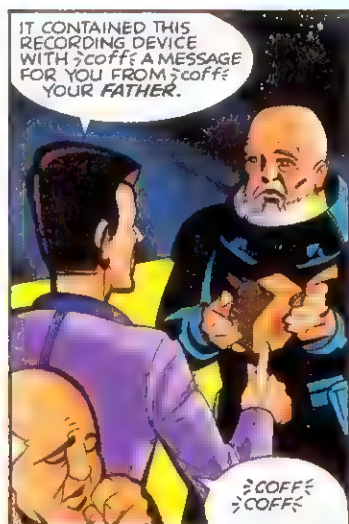
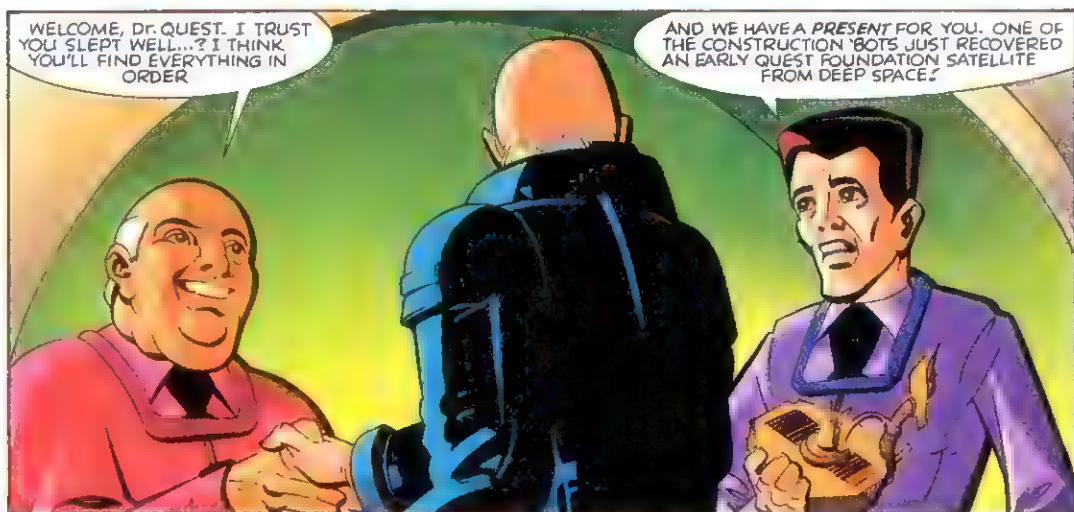


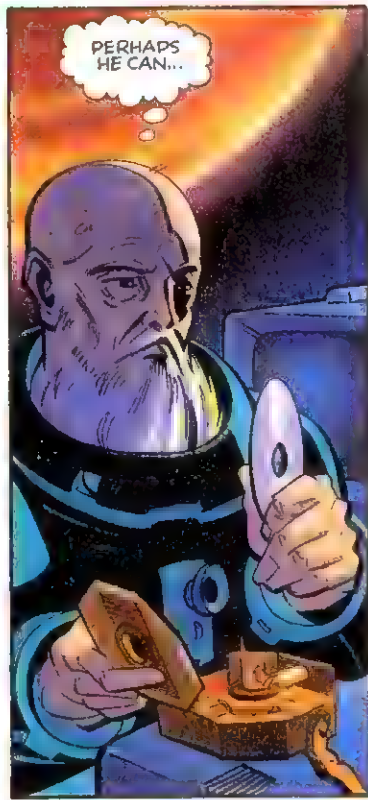
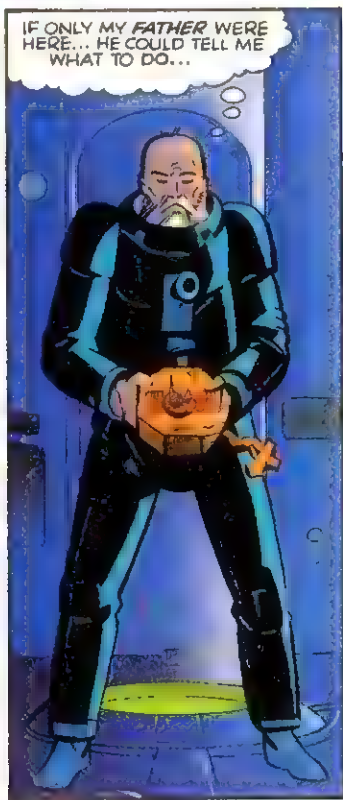
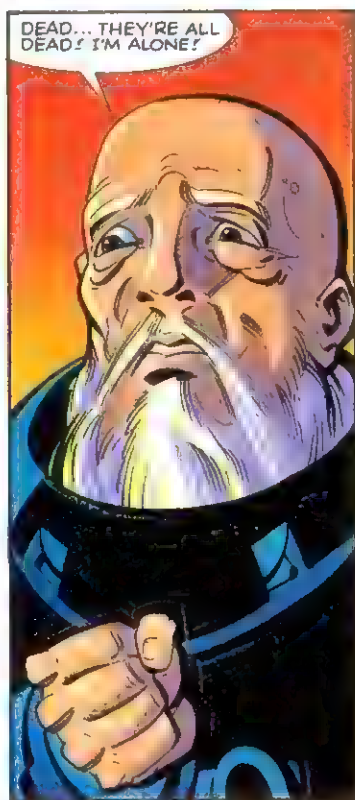
JUST LOOK AT WHAT YOU'VE ACCOMPLISHED! THE DREAM OF THE AGES!

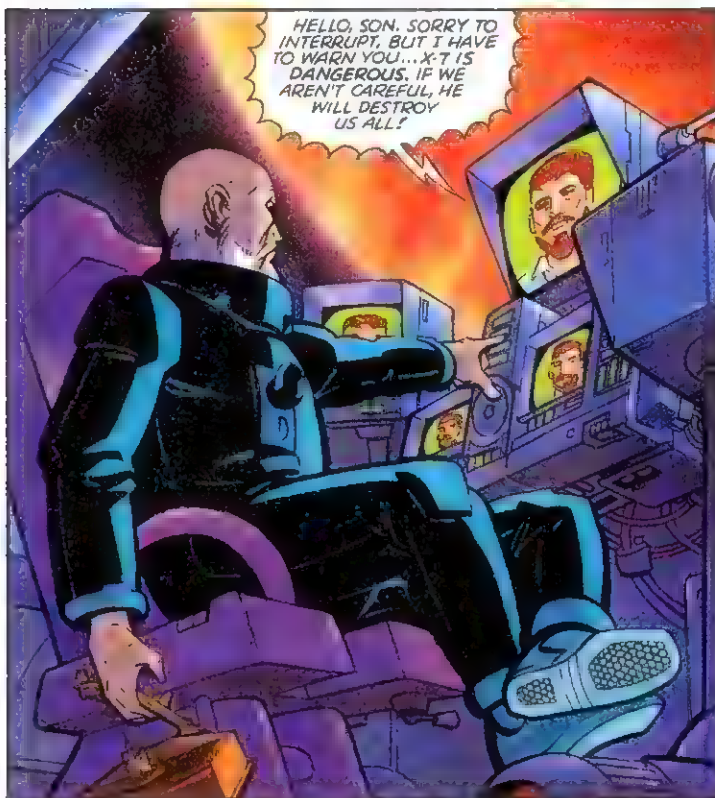


YOU'VE MADE
INTERGALACTIC TRAVEL
POSSIBLE!

YOU'VE USED SOLAR
ENERGY TO CONSTRUCT THIS
GIANT VESSEL--A SHIP TWICE THE
SIZE OF EARTH! WITHIN THE
BENTON QUEST I, HUMANKIND
WILL ESCAPE EARTH'S STRANGLE-
HOLD FOREVER AND BREATHE
FREE AMID THE STARS!







HELLO, SON. SORRY TO INTERRUPT, BUT I HAVE TO WARN YOU...X-7 IS DANGEROUS. IF WE AREN'T CAREFUL, HE WILL DESTROY US ALL!



WE MUST AWAKE TO THE DANGER OF X-7, SON. AWAKE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

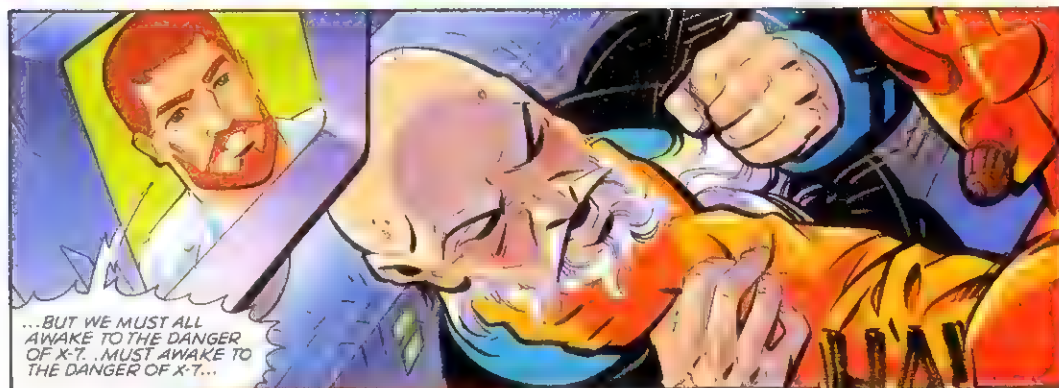
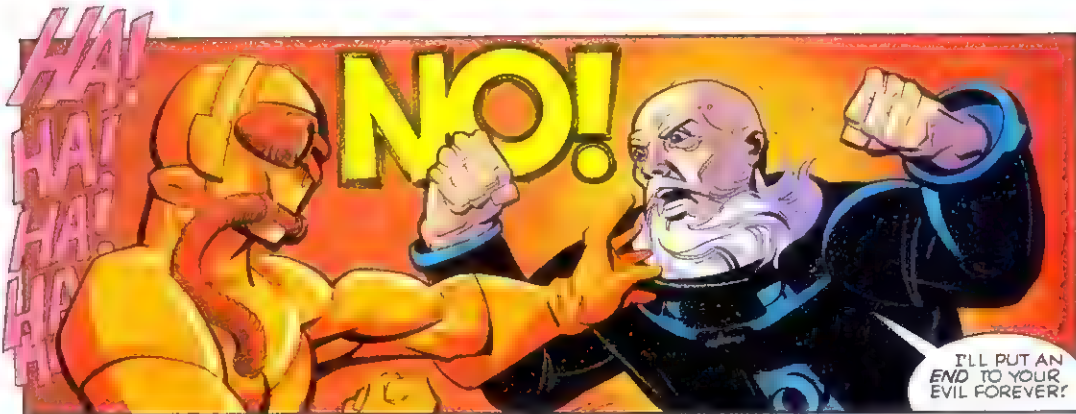
THIS...THIS SOUNDS LIKE THE MESSAGE HE SENT ME ON THE DAY HE DIED... BUT, WHY? AND HOW WAS IT LAUNCHED INTO OUTER SPACE?

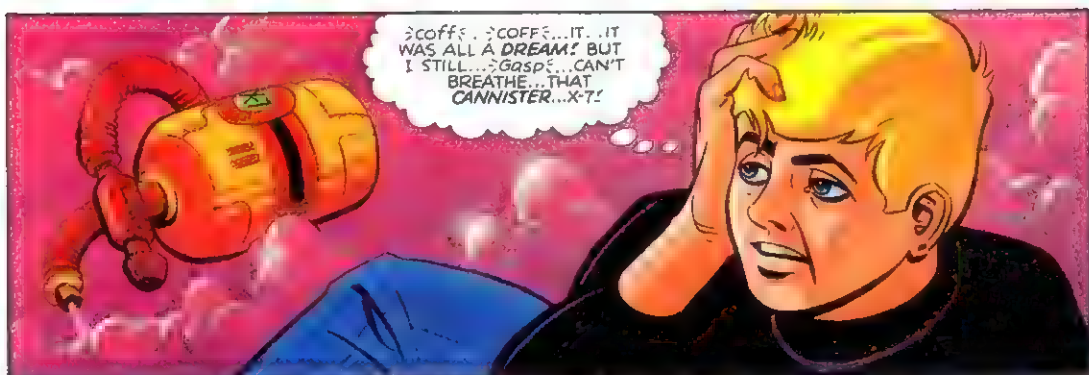


YOU!

HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!







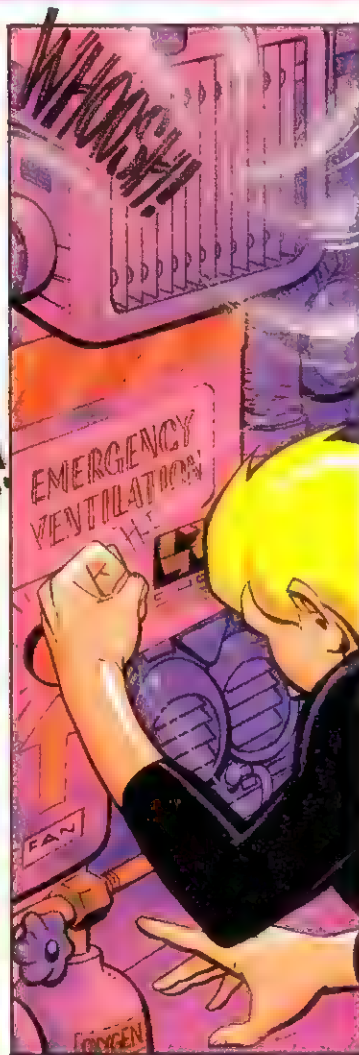
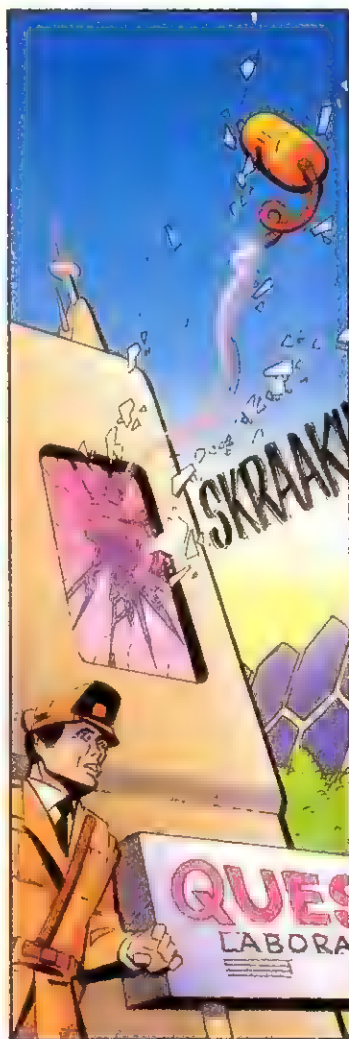
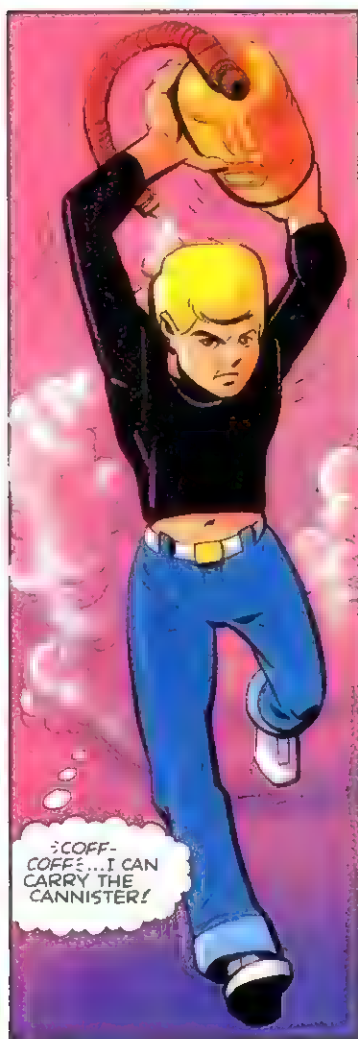
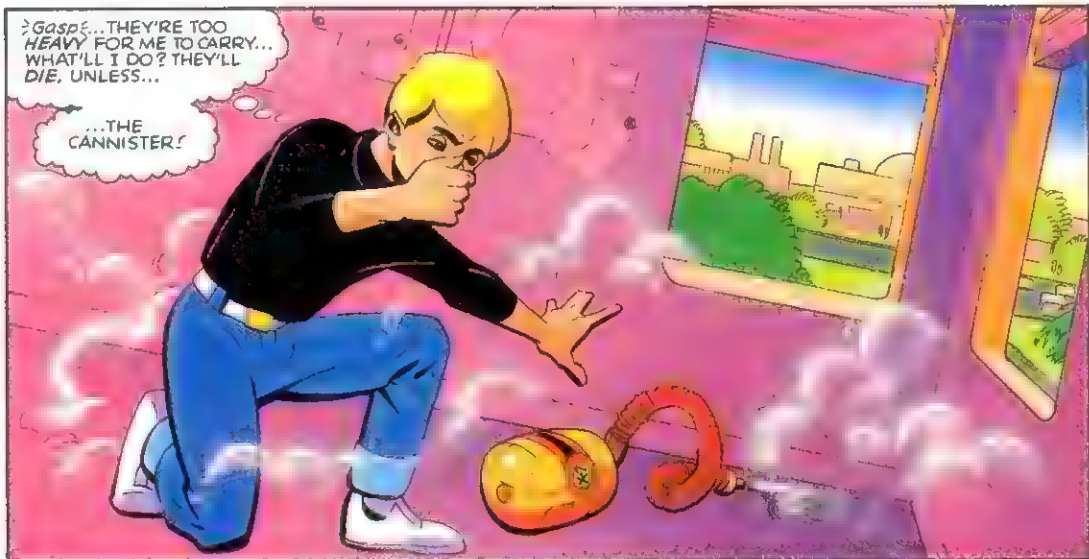
I...I...REMEMBER
NOW...?GASP?...IT
WAS A TEST...

"DAD WAS SENT A CANNISTER OF
X-7, THE MIRACLE *INSECTICIDE*, TO
TEST... TO SEE IF IT WAS HARMFUL
TO PEOPLE.

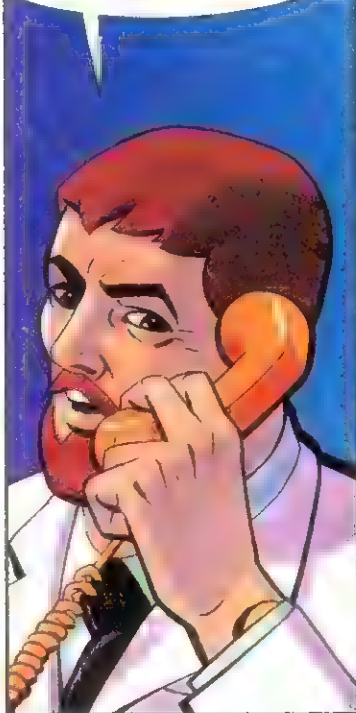
"BUT BEFORE THE TESTS COULD
START, BANDIT BUMPED ME
AND I FELL AGAINST THE
CANNISTER.

"THE FUMES WERE
SMOTHERING...
WE PASSED OUT..."

CAN'T STAY AWAKE MUCH
LONGER...?COFF-COFF?...GOT
TO PULL EVERYBODY OUT OF HERE!



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "ACCEPTABLE RISK"? WE WERE ALL NEARLY **KILLED** BY THAT BLASTED PESTICIDE OF YOURS!



WELL, NO, IT WASN'T STRICTLY A **TEST**, BUT... NO, IT WASN'T A CONTROLLED SITUATION... BUT... BUT...



THIS ISN'T THE END OF THIS! I INTEND FILING A DETAILED PROTEST WITH... NOW, WAIT A SECOND! DON'T YOU **DARE** HANG UP ON ME...!

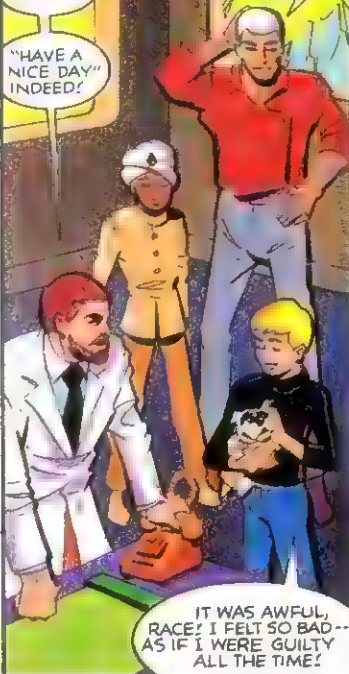


HE HUNG UP ON ME!

Humph!

"HAVE A NICE DAY" INDEED!

BOY, THAT MUST HAVE BEEN SOME DREAM YOU HAD, JONNY!




IT WAS AWFUL, RACE! I FELT SO BAD-- AS IF I WERE GUILTY ALL THE TIME!

I WAS FAMOUS AND STUFF... BUT EVERYTHING I DID WAS **WRONG**!

AND EVERYBODY WAS IN MY DREAM-- EVEN JADE!

WHAT A COINCIDENCE, KID! SHE WAS IN MY DREAM, TOO!





DREAMS ARE FUNNY THINGS, SON. I THINK YOUR MIND WAS DOING ITS BEST TO TRICK YOU INTO WAKING UP.

IT WORKED, TOO!

I DON'T KNOW, JONNY--IT WAS NOT ALL BAD. I HAD A SPACESHIP NAMED AFTER ME! THE HADJI--SOUNDS PRETTY INTERESTING.

AND WE WERE FRIENDS, HADJI--FRIENDS FOR ALL TIME, NO MATTER WHAT! THAT WAS THE BEST PART--RIGHT, BANDIT?

GRRR!
ARMY
ARMY

-DEDICATED WITH THANKS TO DOUG WILDEY! STEACY-86



Questions

ANSWERS

1547 DeKALB STREET

NORRISTOWN, PA 19401

Dear Diana and company,

Pardon me while I drop another coin into the jukebox and play that same old song again about what a surprise and a delight issues #3 and #4 were. Issue #3 was a surprise because I *liked* it, even though, to be brutally frank, I have never cared much for the work of *Mistress Hempel* and *Wheatley Blood of the Innocent* was okay, I guess, but *Mars* I found to be the four-color equivalent of a nagging toothache. So it was very much with a rising sense of respect for them that I read "Guns for the Laughing Man." They seemed to put their hearts and souls into it, like everyone else who has been connected with this project—and it shows. A nod and a tip of the hat, boys.

The story was great as well. *Wild Jim* was a great addition to the *Quest* myths and I hope to be seeing more of him in the future. And the cover... well, let's just say that I'm a *big fan* of *Dave Stevens*. What are the odds of his doing a complete issue?

Issue #4, "*Marley Frost is Here to Stay*," was a delight in that I spent a great deal of time reading it with a huge goofy grin on my face. It had large amounts of humor (something sadly lacking in most comics these days, alas) and rather pointedly spoke of the many misconceptions that people seem to have of the movie industry. Also much appreciated was the further humanization of the character of *Doctor Quest* via *Messner-Loebs'* fine way with storytelling—all too often on the old show he was the cat in the white lab coat standing just off stage, and it was a welcome change to see him brought more into focus as an all-too-human being. "Gosh, Jonny, I did not even know that your father *knew* such words!" Great. *Tom Yeates'* artwork was gear as well; how about an encore?

In closing, let me add that there is nothing more irksome to me than reading letters to a magazine that are nothing but gushing heaps of praise—with nary a complaint. So to balance things out, let me say that we've been having some really *lousy* weather around here... hot and dry with too little rain, and it looks as though once again this fall we're going to have to do without the beautiful array of colors that, this time of year, makes Kentucky the closest

thing to a heaven on earth. There, I said it.

Virgil Ferguson
Georgetown, KY

Dear Questers,

I have enjoyed the first four issues of *JQ* magazine very much. Not since *The Rocketeer* have I had so much fun reading a comic book. Thanks for bringing back a favorite from my youth.

Sincerely,
Geoffrey Brittingham
Dallas, TX

—Thanks for the great card, Geoffrey. And speaking of *The Rocketeer*, keep your eyes peeled for *Comico's* newest title, premiering sometime this summer!

Dear Ms. Schutz,

I like the new *JQ* book. The art has been fine and, heck, anything with *Station* and *Stevens* gets four stars. But except for issue #4, the scripts have been too violent.

And this from a steady fan of *U.N.C.L.E.* and *The Wild Wild West*!

I know that *JQ* was a more or less "adult" toon, and I know that you can't do the *Smurfs* in an alternative-flooded market, but I think you should lighten up on the action. The character building is fine and issue #4 was letter perfect, but please try and stay a little "bland."

Your reader,
Stephen Borer
Saint Paul, MN

—Bland? Bland? Surely you jest. Or maybe you'd better define your terms, Stephen. Surely there's already enough pablum on today's market to satisfy your need for "bland" and, in any case, I find it hard to conceive of our interpretation of *Jonny Quest* as "violent." In light of such exquisitely graphic extravaganzas as *Dark Knight* and *Elektra: Assassin*, or any of the innumerable and bloody ninja animal titles, *JQ* seems relatively harmless by comparison.

Anyone else care to comment on this subject?

Dear *Comico*,
Congratulations on a really excellent product. As a 30-year-old, even the men-

tion of the name *Jonny Quest* fills me with wave upon wave of nostalgia. The fact that your creative team has so masterfully captured the feel of the old cartoon series—and in many ways even surpassed the quality of what I consider was *Hanna-Barbera's* best work—ensures the book's universal appeal. I'm sure the timeless quality of the characters and their relationships, coupled with *Comico's* magnificent presentation, will appeal to a very wide section of the comic-reading community.

Issue #4 was the best yet. That wraparound cover is one of the best I have ever seen and the interior artwork storyline did it justice.

William Messner-Loebs' story was well paced, not too cerebral (which is as a *JQ* story should be), and each character was brought into play with just the right amount of involvement. This is what I meant about the characters' relationships. Each one is so different from the other—each with a differing role to play and something completely individual to offer. It must be difficult for a writer to balance the contribution of each character to a storyline when the participants are as varied as the *JQ* cast. As I said, Mr. Messner-Loebs did a fine job. He, in turn, must have been extremely pleased with *Tom Yeates*, *Dan Adkins*, and *Ken Feduniewicz's* rendering of his story. I certainly was. Great job, guys!

To me, this book has so much appeal that I can hardly wait to have the first hundred issues, in numerical order, stored in my cupboard, so that I can pull them all out again and look over the memories.

Thank you, very much for this fine comic.

Steve Wren
Chipping Norton NSW
Australia

—Thanks, Steve, but... "not too cerebral"? Maybe you and Mr. Borer should get together and compare notes. But watch out for next issue, as *Bill Loebs* and *Murphy Anderson* present an action-filled, semi-cerebral tale of intrigue and deception, with a dash of violence and a crazed panther on the side! (Sorry, guys—I couldn't resist!)

—Diana Schutz

HYPE HYPE

HYPE HYPE HYPE

Shipping January 23rd
Newsstand titles on sale 2/27/87

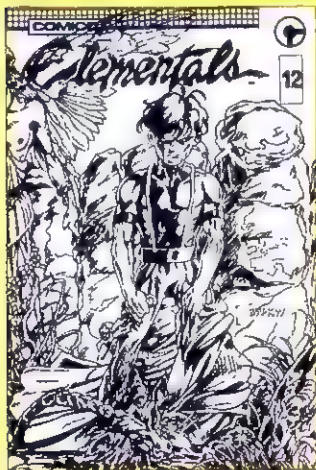
ROBOTECH The New Generation #13: While searching the desert for water, Rand is trapped in a "Sandstorm" and overwhelmed by spores of the mysterious Invid Flower of Life. Scripted by **Markalan Joplin**, pencilled by **Harrison Fong**, and inked by **Bill Anderson**. Plus, an amazing painted cover by **Ken Steacy**.

JONNY QUEST #8: Jonny and Hadji grow to manhood only to discover that "The Curse of X-7" lasts a lifetime! This action-packed shocker comes to you courtesy of writer **William Messner-Loebs** and penciller/inker/colorist **Ken Steacy**.

Shipping February 6th
Newsstand titles on sale 2/27/87

ROBOTECH The Macross Saga #17: Rick fights for his life as his fevered imagination takes him on a demented journey in "Phantasm." New writer **Markalan Joplin** is joined by guest penciller **Harrison Fong** and inker **Chris Kalnick**. Cover painting by **Ken Steacy**.

Shipping February 20th
Newsstand titles on sale 3/31/87



ELEMENTALS #12: What kind of dreams do you have when a L.A.W.'s rocket just put a hole through you? Weird ones. "Half-life" is a terrifying and unforgettable journey through the mind of Monolith by writer/penciller **Bill Willingham** and new regular inker **Keith Wilson**.



GRENDEL #5: The conflict between Grendel and Tujro comes to a head as they meet in battle. Christine grows more desperate in her pursuit, while Brian begins to suspect her true nature. More mysteries and revelations from writer **Matt Wagner**, pencillers **Arnold** and **Jacob Pander**, and inker **Jay Geldhof**.



JONNY QUEST #9: When the sun goes down in a small town, panthers and mysterious men in black prowl the woods. The Quest team discovers why in "A Fire In Green Meadows" by writer **William Messner-Loebs** and artist **Murphy Anderson**. Wraparound cover painting by **Tim Truman**.



JUSTICE MACHINE #2: Maxinor sends the Justice Machine back to Georwell where everything they ever believed in is ripped away, as the time comes for "Choosing Sides." Written by **Tony Isabella** and illustrated by **Mike Gustovich**.



ROBOTECH Masters #14: The Masters fear they've been contaminated by the most deadly force of all — emotion! Things get warmer between Sean and Marie, while Dana's feelings for Zor grow more confused "Clone Chamber" is scripted by **Mike Baron**, pencilled by **Neil Vokes** and inked by **Tom Poston**.

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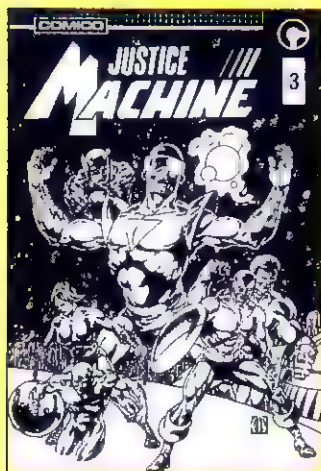
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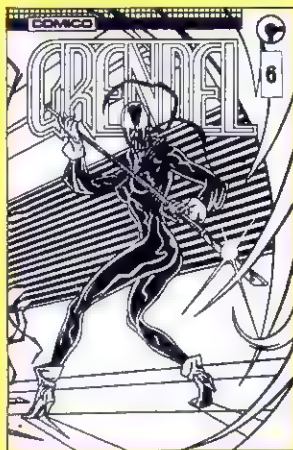
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JUSTICE MACHINE #3: The all-new, all-different Justice Machine battles the all-old, very confused Justice Machine. Plus a special solo story pitting Challenger against the one enemy he thought he would never face! Written by **Tony Isabella** and illustrated by **Mike Gustovich**.



GRENDEL #6: Things start to come to a head. Regina is interrogated by Argent. Christine becomes firm in her conviction and makes decisive moves against Tuijro. The Grendel saga continues with writer **Matt Wagner**, pencillers **Arnold** and **Jacob Pander**, and inker **Jay Geldhof**.



ROBOTECH The New Generation #14: While journeying through the forest, Annie encounters a young tribal prince — and falls in love! Don't miss "Annie's Wedding," by scripter **Jack Herman**, penciller **Reggie Byers**, and new inker **Rich Rankin**.

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JONNY QUEST™

Next month William Messner-Loebs
and Murphy Anderson
will try to put out

“A Fire in Green Meadows” . . .

Wraparound
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by Tim Truman.

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. . . in JONNY QUEST #9.
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5. Favorite Colorist
6. Favorite Letterer
7. Favorite Cover Artist
8. Favorite Comic-Book Story
9. Favorite Comic Book
10. Favorite Limited Comic-Book Series
11. Favorite Graphic Novel
12. Favorite Character
13. Favorite Publication about Comics
- Phil Seuling Award for Favorite Direct-Sale-Only Title

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